the assessment studies to know the extent and the full potential of the gas deposits.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Natural gas deal with Iran

2355. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter relating to the implementation of $ 22 billion liquefied natural gas deal, was discussed with Iranian Government during his recent visit to that country; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas has not visited Iran, recently.

(b) Does not arise.

Dependence of Navratna oil companies on foreign assistance

†2356. DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many oil companies with Navratna status in the country are dependent on the assistance of foreign companies for production of crude oil and natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of these domestic companies;

(c) whether it is also a fact that these domestic companies are earning annual dividend regularly for the last few years; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.